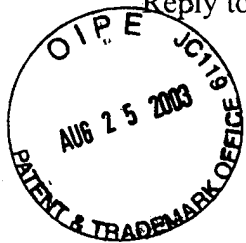


Appl. No. 10/055,517  
Amendment Dated August 21, 2003  
Reply to Office Action of August 04, 2003



Case No.: 4702US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/055,517  
Applicant(s) : Richard T. Reel  
Filed : January 23, 2002  
TC/A.U. : 2859  
Examiner : T. Reis  
For : **METHODS FOR FLUORESCENCE  
DETECTION THAT MINIMIZES  
UNDESIRABLE BACKGROUND  
FLUORESCENCE**  
Customer No. : 22896

Confirmation No.: 9361

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

Date of Deposit: August 21, 2003

Signature: Cheri Gomez  
Type Name of Depositing Party: Cheri Gomez

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED  
AUG 27 2003  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2806

Sir:

With reference to the Office action mailed August 04, 2003, reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested. Claims 16, 30-52 are pending.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Response** begins on page 8 of this paper.